

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01

TRSE-00 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 SSO-00 INRE-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 EUR-12 /092 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1457

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, BR

SUBJECT: FIRST MEETING OF TRADE CONSULTATIVE SUB-GROUP

REF: A. STATE 213919 B. BRASILIA 7700 C. SHUGART- RUSER TELECON
SEPTEMBER 10

1. ECONOMIC COUNSELOR CALLED ON AMBASSADOR CABRAL DE MELLO, CHIEF OF THE ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT OF THE FONMIN, ON SEPTEMBER 10 TO CONVEY THE SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL A. MINISTER SERGIO ROUANET, CHIEF OF THE COMMERCIAL POLICY DIVISION, WAS ALSO PRESENT. COUNSELOR AT FIRST PRESENTED ONLY THE OCTOBER 8 - 9 DATES. WHEN IT BECAME APPARENT THAT THERE WOULD BE DIFFICULTY FOR BRAZILIANS TO MEET THAT WEEK, COUNSELOR RAISED THE POSSIBILITY OF A FIRST MEETING OF THE SUB-GROUP IN WASHINGTON BEFORE OR AFTER THE EC-BRAZILIAN CONSULTATIONS IN BRUSSELS. COUNSELOR NOTED THE ADVANTAGES OF A FIRST MEETING IN WASHINGTON, IN VIEW OF THE BROAD AGENDA NOW CONTEMPLATED BY THE US.

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2. CABRAL DE MELLO INDICATED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY

WILL TAKE UNDER CONSIDERATION OUR REQUEST TO HOLD THE FIRST MEETING IN EARLY OCTOBER AND HOPES TO PROVIDE THE EMBASSY WITH AN EARLY REPLY. HE AGREED WITH THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY CONSULTATIONS BEFORE THE US PUTS IN FINAL FORM ITS PROPOSAL ON EXPORT SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES AND SPECIFICALLY SAID THE GOB WOULD WISH TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT ON THIS PROPOSAL BEFORE IT IS SUBMITTED IN THE MTN ON OCTOBER 15. (ROUANET SAID HE HAD BEEN AWARE OF THE DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS.) CABRAL DE MELLO SAID HE WOULD SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE, BUT OBSERVED THAT EARLY OCTOBER WOULD BE DIFFICULT. IN ADDITION TO THE BRUSSELS MEETINGS, SOAMES IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT BRASILIA BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 29, WHICH MAY PRECLUDE A MEETING OF THE SUB-GROUP AFTER THE EC-GOB DISCUSSIONS, CABRAL DE MELLO SEEMED TO THINK THIS WAS A POSSIBILITY BUT NOTED THE UNCERTAINTIES CONCERNING THE DATES FOR A SECOND PRODUCER-CONSUMER PREPARATORY MEETING IN PARIS THAT MONTH.

3. MINISTER ROUANET STATED THAT AT THE TIME IT WAS AGREED TO HOLD THE FIRST MEETING WITHIN NINETY DAYS. THE GOB HAD MADE KNOWN THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO DO SO IN FACT BECAUSE OF THE OTHER MEETINGS ANTICIPATED FOR EARLY OCTOBER. HE SAID THAT THE "WITHIN NINETY DAYS" WAS MEANT TO BE AMBIGUOUS AND THAT EVERYONE HAD AGREED TO BE FLEXIBLE RATHER THAN LITERAL IN THIS REGARD. THE ONLY DATE HE EVER MENTIONED WAS OCTOBER 22 WITH THE MEETING RUNNING WEDNESDAY THROUGH FRIDAY (I.E., OCTOBER 22 - 24).

4. COMMENT: CABRAL DE MELLO WAS VERY POSITIVE THROUGHOUT AND CLEARLY INTERESTED IN AN EARLY MEETING OF THE SUB-GROUP.
JOHNSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXTILES, MEETINGS, FOREIGN TRADE, PLANNING MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BRASIL07979
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750315-0308
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750959/aaaacadw.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 213919, 75 BRASILIA 7700
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <19 DEC 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIRST MEETING OF TRADE CONSULTATIVE SUB-GROUP
TAGS: ETRD, BR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006